

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 79908

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Western Motor Tariff)
Bureau, Inc. under the Shortened)
Procedure Tariff Docket to publish)
for and on behalf of Alltrans Express)
California, Inc., and all other car-)
riers as shown in Exhibit "A" tariff)
provisions resulting in an increase)
because of the proposed cancellation)
of certain specific rail competitive)
commodity rates.)

Shortened Procedure
Tariff Docket
Application No. 53081
(Filed December 31, 1971)

OPINION AND ORDER

By this application, Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., seeks authority, on behalf of Alltrans Express California, Inc. and sixteen other carriers, to cancel the carriers' participation in various rail-competitive commodity rates.¹ Upon cancellation of the rates, as proposed, higher class rates would apply.

Applicant states that the involved carriers have reviewed their records and have determined that the rates proposed to be canceled have not been used recently. Applicant avers that movements under these rates in the past have been infrequent and have resulted in operating losses in most instances. Applicant contends that, with constantly rising carrier costs, the proposed cancellation of these rates would serve to provide some measure of protection against traffic producing operating losses.

¹ These rates are set forth in Local, Joint and Proportional Freight and Express Tariff No. 109, Cal.P.U.C. No. 13, and generally apply from, to and between points in the San Francisco Bay Area, San Joaquin, Sacramento, Imperial and Coachella Valleys, Los Angeles Basin and San Diego Areas. The sixteen other carriers are listed in Exhibit "A" attached to the application.

Applicant asserts that increases resulting from the proposal herein would not increase the California intrastate gross revenue of any of the carriers involved herein by as much as one percent.

The application was listed on the Commission's Daily Calendar of January 4, 1972. No objection to the granting of the application has been received.

Commission staff analysis discloses that the rates in question are below the level of the truck rates for the involved transportation and were established to meet rail competition. The volume of movement under these rail competitive rates has diminished over the years and the carriers have now elected not to meet this competition. Few, if any, actual increases need result from the proposed cancellation of rates since service would still be available at the present rates from other authorized highway carriers. The staff recommends that the application be granted by ex parte order.

In the circumstances, it appears, and the Commission finds, that applicant's proposal is reasonable and justified. A public hearing is not necessary.

The Commission concludes that the increases granted will not contribute to inflationary expectations. Therefore, they fall within the guidelines established pursuant to the Federal Government's economic stabilization program as more specifically set forth in the certificate appended.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., is hereby authorized, on behalf of Alltrans Express California, Inc. and the other carriers


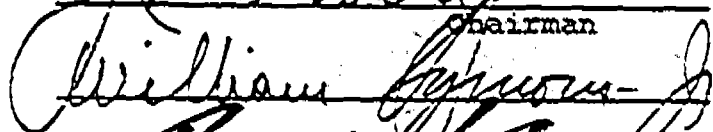
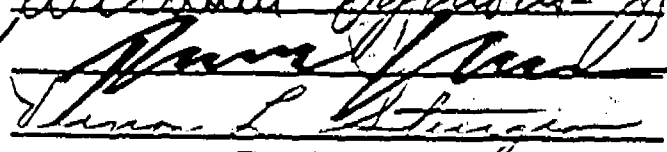
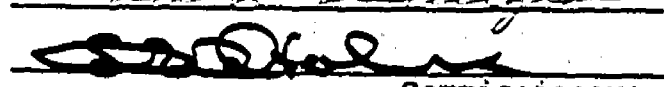
named in Exhibit "A" attached to the application, to cancel the participation of said carriers from certain rates in its Local, Joint and Proportional Freight and Express Tariff No. 109, Cal. P.U.C. No. 13, as specifically proposed in the application.

2. Tariff publications authorized to be made as a result of the order herein shall be filed not earlier than the effective date of this order and may be made effective not earlier than thirty days after the effective date of this order on not less than thirty days' notice to the Commission and to the public.

3. The authority herein granted shall expire unless exercised within ninety days after the effective date of this order.

This order shall become effective twenty days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 27th day of April, 1972.


Chairman


Commissioners


(SPT) A. 53081 - nm*

Certificate of the Public Utilities
Commission of the State of California Re
Increases in Rates for Certain Transportation
Services Performed by For-Hire Highway Carriers
Within California

Pursuant to provisions of Section 300.16 of the Economic Stabilization Act Amendments of 1971, the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California does hereby certify to the Federal Price Commission as follows:

1. The decision of the California Public Utilities Commission to which this certification is attached authorizes the cancellation of certain truck rates which are competitive with rail rates. As a result of said cancellation, higher minimum truck rates would hereafter be applicable if there is any traffic to be moved thereunder.
2. Said decision results only in technical increases and the cancellation of "dead" rates under which no traffic has moved.
3. No increase in transportation costs to shippers is involved inasmuch as no movement is anticipated in the future under the higher truck minimum rates.
4. The instant application meets the criteria set forth in Rule 25 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure for processing applications under the Shortened Tariff Docket by showing that public hearing is not necessary in this proceeding and that the increases would not increase the involved carriers' California intrastate gross revenue by as much as one percent.
5. The cancellation of the rail competitive rates will not result in an increase in the carriers' overall gross revenues nor cause any inflationary impact on the cost of transportation services.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

State Building
350 McAllister Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

April , 1972